

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

[1] An information distribution system comprising:

a broadcast content receiving section operable to receive broadcast content which is broadcasted through radio waves;

a network content acquisition section operable to acquire network content which is distributed through an IP network; and

a combination output section operable to combine and output said broadcast content with said network content, said broadcast content receiving section comprising:

a broadcast receiving section operable to receive a broadcast signal; and

a conversion section operable to convert a radio wave signal as received into a predetermined digital signal and outputs the predetermined digital signal, wherein

said broadcast content receiving section is detachably attached to a system body incorporating said combination output section.

[2] The information distribution system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said broadcast content receiving section is provided with an authentication section operable to store an identifier, which is unique to the broadcast content and required for accessing said IP network, and perform authentication by the use of the identifier in response to said network content acquisition section.

[3] The information distribution system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a content replacement section operable to replace the broadcast content, which is generated by combination in said combination output section, with said network content on the basis of a switching control signal which is acquired from said IP network.

[4] The information distribution system as claimed in claim 3 wherein said switching control signal is periodically acquired from said IP network together with data in a file format associated with replacement times.

[5] An information distribution method for viewing and listening pictures and sounds with a terminal device having a display section, comprising:

5 a step (1) of receiving broadcast content, which is broadcasted through radio waves, with a broadcast content receiving section which is provided with a broadcast receiving section which is detachably attached to said terminal device and operable to receive a broadcast signal and a conversion
10 section operable to convert a radio wave signal as received into a predetermined digital signal and outputs the predetermined digital signal;

a step (2) of acquiring network content which is distributed through an IP network.

15 a step (3) of combining and outputting said broadcast content with said network content.

[6] The information distribution method as claimed in claim 5 wherein, in said step (2), authentication is performed in
20 response to a request from a network content acquisition section by the use of an identifier which is stored in said broadcast content receiving section, unique to the broadcast content and required for accessing said IP network.

25 [7] The information distribution method as claimed in claim 5 wherein, in said step (3), the broadcast content which is generated by combination in said combination output section is replaced with said network content on the basis of a switching control signal which is acquired from said IP network.

30 [8] The information distribution method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said switching control signal is periodically acquired from said IP network together with data in a file format associated with replacement times.